

Clarence Todman

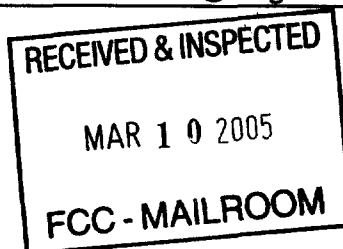
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March 5, 2005

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20254



Subject: CC Docket No. 96-95 Choice Petition for ETC status in the USVI

Gentlemen:

In reference to the above cited petition coming before you; as a private consumer, I strongly urge that the Federal Communications Commission rule in favor of **Choice Communications**; so that, here in the United States Virgin Islands we will have at least two (2) options for obtaining basic telephone service, that is now being provided solely by the INNOVATIVE Telephone Company monopoly.

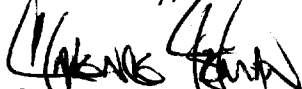
It can of course be argued that some monopolies are good, beneficial and even necessary. However, this just isn't the case with INNOVATIVE. Their rates are high and the service to the consumer is poor; and, these factors will in all likelihood continue until such time that something is done to bring about some degree of competition for basic telephone service here in the USVI.

It is not just that the basic service is poor — which it is — but it is also the attitude and contempt that comes along with having a monopoly; and, a local Public Service Commission that would rather claim impotence, than take any action against said monopoly which could ultimately lead to certain end-costs being lowered for the benefit of ordinary consumers.

I refuse to believe or accept that any U.S. Government agency or commission with regulatory powers would allow itself to become the foil by which a few businesses are allowed or encouraged to operate and provide a basic service, without ever having to concern themselves about the possibility of having to encounter serious competition.

Please correct this grave injustice, that has been allowed to go on way to long here in the United States Virgin Islands.

Yours truly,

  
Clarence Todman

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